

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. - 68. (canceled)

69. (new) An isolated nucleic acid consisting of 19 to 140 nucleotides wherein the sequence of the nucleic acid comprises:

- (a) at least 19 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 142700;
- (b) an RNA equivalent of (a);
- (c) a sequence at least 92/131 identical to (a) or (b); or
- (d) the complement of any one of (a)-(c).

70. (new) The nucleic acid of claim 69, wherein the at least 19 nucleotides is of a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 140670 and 140732.

71. (new) The nucleic acid of claim 69, wherein the nucleic acid consists of 19 to 24 nucleotides.

72. (new) The nucleic acid of claim 69, wherein the sequence of the nucleic acid consists of:

- (a) at least 19 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 142700;
- (b) an RNA equivalent of (a);
- (c) a sequence at least 92/131 nucleotides identical to (a) or (b); or
- (d) the complement of any one of (a)-(c).

73. (new) The nucleic acid of claim 72, wherein the at least 19 nucleotides is of a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 140670 and 140732.

74. (new) The nucleic acid of claim 72, wherein the nucleic acid consists of 19 to 24 nucleotides.

75. (new) The nucleic acid of claim 70, wherein the nucleic acid is an RNA.

76. (new) The nucleic acid of claim 73, wherein the nucleic acid is an RNA.

77. (new) The nucleic acid of claim 75, wherein the nucleic acid is capable of modulating expression of a target gene.

78. (new) The nucleic acid of claim 76, wherein the nucleic acid is capable of modulating expression of a target gene.

79. (new) The nucleic acid of claim 77, wherein the nucleic acid is at least 14/22 complementary to a binding site sequence of 19 to 24 nucleotides of a target gene and wherein the binding site sequence is located in an untranslated region of RNA encoded by the target gene.

80. (new) The nucleic acid of claim 78, wherein the nucleic acid is at least 14/22 complementary to a binding site sequence of 19 to 24 nucleotides of a target gene and wherein the binding site sequence is located in an untranslated region of RNA encoded by the target gene.

81. (new) A vector comprising an insert, wherein an insert consists of the nucleic acid of claim 69.

82. (new) A vector comprising an insert, wherein an insert consists of the nucleic acid of claim 72.

83. (new) A probe comprising an insert, wherein an insert consists of the nucleic acid of claim 69.

84. (new) A probe comprising an insert, wherein an insert consists of the nucleic acid of claim 72.

85. (new) A gene expression inhibition system comprising the vector of claim 81 and a means for inserting said vector into a cell.

86. (new) A gene expression inhibition system comprising the vector of claim 82 and a means for inserting said vector into a cell.